

60,246-116

REMARKS

Claims 4-6 stand objected because the word "polar" should be inserted before "particulates." Claims 4-5 have been amended to recite "polar particulates." Claim 6 has been cancelled.

Claims 3-6 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claims the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention. Claim 3 has been amended to more clearly recite the steps of heating and cooling. Claim 4 has been amended to delete "heated first." Claim 5 has been amended to recited "polar particulates." Claim 6 has been cancelled.

Claims 1-4 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Bentley (United States Patent No. 4,848,314) in view of Kaneko (United States Patent No. 4,421,789). Claim 7 stands further rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Bentley in view of Kaneko and further in view of Lindford (United States Patent No. 6,132,801). Bentley discloses a condensing furnace. Kaneko discloses a process for treating the surface of an aluminum heat exchanger to make it hydrophilic and to increase its wettability. As disclosed in column 3, lines 14 to 22 of Kaneko, a corrosion heat resistant film is applied to the heat exchanger surface. A coating of silica particles is then applied as either a powder or as a solution. Lindford discloses a method of producing coated particles. The Examiner contends that it would be obvious to modify Bentley to incorporate polar particles to improve wettability of the heat exchanger. The Examiner also contends that it would be obvious to coat the silica particles, as disclosed in Linford, that are applied to the surface of the heat exchanger of Kaneko, and therefore Applicant's claims are obvious.

In Applicant's claims, the film is added to the heat transfer component after the plurality of polar particulates are added to the film. In Kaneko, the film is first applied to the heat exchanger surface, and then the coating of silica particles is applied to the heat exchanger surface. If Kaneko and Bentley were truly combined, the combination would suggest adding the polar particulates to the film after the film is applied to the heat exchanger. Applicant's claims require that the polar particulates are added to the film prior to applying the film to the heat exchanger component. The combination does not disclose or suggest Applicant's claims, and Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection be withdrawn.

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Claims 5 and 6 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Bentley in view of Kaneko and further in view of McCulloch (United States Patent No. 3,973,510). Claim 6 has been cancelled. McCulloch discloses blow coating silica on an adhesive coating. The Examiner contends that blowing the particles on the coating necessarily "press" the particles into the adhesive to cause adhesion. McCulloch does not disclose the step of pressing the particles into the adhesive. By employing the step of blowing, the particles would be applied on the adhesive, but would not necessarily be pressed into the adhesive. Therefore, the combination of Bentley, Kaneko and McCulloch does not disclose the step of pressing particles into an adhesive substance, and Applicant's claims are not obvious.

Thus, claims 1-5, 7 and 20-28 are in condition for allowance. No additional fees are seen to be required. If any additional fees are due, however, the Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 50-1482, in the name of Carlson, Gaskey & Olds, P.C., for any additional fees or credit the account for any overpayment. Therefore, favorable reconsideration and allowance of this application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully Submitted,

CARLSON, GASKEY & OLDS, P.C.

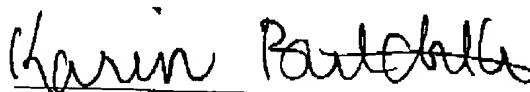


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CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office, Art Unit 1762, Before Final, Facsimile No. (703) 872-9310 on this 14th day of April 2003.



Karin Butchko

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